

For Sale.

MacEwen, FRICKEL & Co.
No. 53, Queen's Road East,
(OPPOSITE THE COMMISARIAT),
ARE NOW LANDING, EX
BRITISH BARQUE
"STILLWATER."

DEVOE'S NONPAREIL
BRILLIANT
KEROSENE OIL,
150° test.

SPARTAN COOKING
STOVES.

FAIRBANKS SCALES.
OAKUM.
TAR.

EX "AMERICAN MAIL."
CALIFORNIA
RACKER
COMPANY'S BISCUITS in 5 lb.
tins, and loose.
Alphabetical BIS-
CUITS.
Fancy Sweet Mixed
BISCUITS.
Ginger CAKES.
Soda BISCUITS.
Oyster BISCUITS.

Cracked WHEAT.
OATMEAL.
HOMINY.
CORNMEAL.

TOPOCAN BUTTER
Eastern and California, CHEESE.
Baconless OODTISH.
Prime HAMS and BACON.
Single Brand Condensed MILK.
PEACH and APPLE BUTTER.
PICKLED OX-TONGUES.
Family PIG-PORK in kegs and pieces.
Paragon MACKEREL in 5 lb cans.
Best Ideal SALMON in 5 lb cans.
Cutting's Dessert FRUITS in 2 1/2 lb cans.
Assorted Canned VEGETABLES.
Potted SAUSAGE and Sausage
MEAT.
Stuffed PEPPERS.
Assorted PICKLES.
MINCEMEAT.
COMB HONEY in Original Frames.
Richardson & Robbins's Correlated Potted
MEATS.
Richardson & Robbins's Curried OYSTERS.
Lunch TONGUE.
McCarthy's Sugar LEMONADE.
Giant CHOWDER.
Smoked SALMON.
Green TURTLE in 2 1/2 lb cans.
&c., &c., &c.

A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF STORES,
including:
TRYBONAU'S DESSERT FRUITS.
ALMONDS and RAISINS.
PICNIC TONGUES.
COCOATINA.

VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.
LIEBIG'S & EPP'S COCOA.
FRENCH PLUMS.
PATE DE FOIE GRAS.
MINCEMEAT.
SAUSAGES.
BROWN.
ISIGNY BUTTER.

DANISH BUTTER.
BREAKFAST TONGUES.
ANCHOVIES.
ASPARAGUS.
SOUPS, &c.

WINES AND SPIRITS.
CHAMPAGNES.

HEIDSIECK'S MONOPOL & WHITE
SEAL.
VEUVE CLICQUOT PONSARDIN.
JULES MUMM & Co., pints & quarts.

CLARETS.
CHATEAU MARGAUX.
CHATEAU LA ROSE, pints & quarts.
CHATEAU LAFITE, " " "
LES GRAVES, " " "
BREAKFAST CLARET, " " "

SHERRIES & PORT.
SAISON'S MANZANILLA & AMON-
TILLADO.
SAISON'S OLD INVALID PORT
(1848).
HUNT'S PORT.

BRANDY, WHISKY, LIQUEURS, &c.
1 and 3 star HENNESSY'S BRANDY.
BISQUIT DUBOIS & Co.'s BRANDY.
FINEST OLD BOURBON WHISKY.
KINAHAN'S LL WHISKY.
ROYAL GLENDEE WHISKY.
CHARTREUSE.
MARASCHINO.
CURACAO.
ANGOSTURA.
BOKER'S and ORANGE
BITTERS.
&c., &c., &c.

BASS'S ALE, bottled by CAMERON and
SANDYSON, pints and quarts.
GUINNESS'S STOUT, bottled by E. &
J. BURKE, pints and quarts.
PILSENER BEER, in quarts.
DRAUGHT ALE and PORTER, by the
Gallon.
ALE and PORTER, in hogheads.

SPECIAL SELECTED
CIGARS.

Fine New Season's CUMSHAW TEA, in
5 and 10 lb tins.
BREAKFAST COFFEE, 5 cents p. lb.

SEASIDE LIBRARY, 15 to 25 cents.
FRANKLIN SQUARE LIBRARY, 15 to
25 cents.

MILNER'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF
SAVES, and CASH BOXES, at
Manufacturer's Prices.
Hongkong, June 1, 1882.

To-day's Advertisements.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 151.

CHINA SEA.

Uniform System of Colouring Buoys and Beacons in Chinese Waters.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the following system of colouring Buoys and Beacons has been adopted by the Imperial Maritime Customs of China:—

BUOYS.

No.	COLOUR OF BUOY.	DIRECTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS.
1	Red	Entering the Channel from seaward, Red-buoys will be found on the Starboard side of the Channel, and must be left on the Starboard hand by vessels passing in.
2	Black	Entering the Channel from seaward, Black-buoys will be found on the Port side of the Channel, and must be left on the Port hand by vessels passing in.
3	Red & Black Horizontal Bands	Buoys painted in Red and Black Horizontal Bands will be found in the fairway, and should be passed close to.
4	Red and Black Vertical Stripes	Buoys painted in Red and Black Vertical Stripes will be found on the ends of spits, and the outer and inner extremes of banks, shoals, or extensive reefs, where there is a navigable channel on either side.
5	Red and Black Chequers	Buoys painted in Red and Black Chequers will be used to mark rocks in the open sea, also to mark obstructions of small extent having channels on either side of them. When used for the latter purpose, they will be placed to seaward of the danger.
6	Red and White Chequers	When two chequered buoys of these colours are used to mark an obstruction, the Red and White one is to mark the Starboard side of the Channel, and must be left on the Starboard hand by vessels passing in; and the Black and White one is to mark the Port side of the Channel, and must be left on the Port hand by vessels passing in.
7	Black and White Chequers	Wrecks will in all cases be marked by Green buoys, having the word WRECK painted on them in White letters, and when a wreck lies in the open sea or in a position where there is a navigable Channel with plenty of room on either side of it, the buoy will carry no other distinguishing mark, and will in every such case be placed to seaward of the wreck.
8	Wreck Buoys	Wreck buoys marked with an Odd number must be left on the Port hand by vessels entering from the sea. Wreck buoys marked with an Even number must be left on the Starboard hand by vessels entering from the sea. The numbers on wreck buoys will be painted in White, and placed above the word WRECK.

Note.—All other distinguishing marks to Buoys will be in addition to the foregoing, and where such are employed, a particular description of the same will in each case be given in the published List. Each Buoy will have an Iron Plate fastened on its outside, in some convenient place above the water-line, with the name of its district and station as given in the published List stamped thereon in English and Chinese, to insure its identification if found adrift.

BEACONS.

No.	COLOUR OF BEACON.	DIRECTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS.
1	Red	Entering the Channel from seaward, Red beacons will be found on the Starboard side of the Channel, and must be left on the Starboard hand by vessels passing in.
2	Black	Entering the Channel from seaward, Black beacons will be found on the Port side of the Channel, and must be left on the Port hand by vessels passing in.
3	Red and Black Vertical Stripes	Beacons painted in Red and Black Vertical Stripes will be used to mark spits and the outer and inner extremities of banks, shoals, or extensive reefs, where there is a navigable Channel on either side.
4	Red and Black Chequers	Beacons painted in Red and Black Chequers will be used to mark rocks in the open sea, also to mark obstructions of small extent having channels on either side of them.
5	Red and White Chequers	When two Chequered Beacons of these colours are used to mark a rock or reef, the Red and White one is to mark the Starboard side of the Channel, and must be left on the Starboard hand by vessels passing in; and the Black and White one is to mark the Port side of the Channel, and must be left on the Port hand by vessels passing in.
6	Black and White Chequers	Note.—It is to be understood that the above rules for painting beacons apply in each case to the body of the structure. When a beacon which is painted a single colour, either black or red, is surrounded by a distinguishing mark, such mark may be painted the same colour as the body of the beacon or with that colour and white combined, or white alone.
Various		When the body of a beacon is painted in two colours, the same colours only may be used to paint the mark by which it is surrounded. Whenever a distinguishing mark is used, a particular description of it will be given in the published List.

By Order of the Inspector General of Customs,
A. M. BISBEE,
Coast Inspector.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 152.

CHINA SEA.

Changes in Colouring of Buoys and Beacons.

NOTICE is hereby given that, in accordance with the System of Colouring Buoys and Beacons in Chinese Waters, which is described in Notice to Mariners No. 151 of this date, the changes that are specified below will be made on the 15th day of September, 1882, or as soon afterwards as may be practicable.

CANTON DISTRICT.

- 1.—Dutch Folly South Buoy, now green, will be painted black.
- 2.—Dutch Folly South Buoy, now green, will be painted black.
- 3.—Taishek Barrier Eastern Beacon, now black and white, will have its lower part, from upper end of braces downwards, painted red; the lower half of its pole, above the upper end of the braces, white; and the upper half of pole with the circular frame by which it is surrounded, red.
- 4.—Taishek Barrier Western Beacon, will be painted the same as the Eastern one.
- 5.—Taishek Barrier Middle Beacon, now black and white, will have its lower part, from upper end of braces downwards, painted red; the upper part will remain white.

SWATOW DISTRICT.

- 1.—Wyoming Rock Buoy, now red and black chequered, with a spherical cage, will carry an inverted frustum cone and be painted all black.
- 2.—Madras Rock Buoy, now red and black chequered, will be painted all black.
- 3.—Wreck Buoy, now painted red, will be painted green with the word "WRECK" and the numeral "4" on it in white.
- 4.—Gochang Rock Beacon, now red and black chequered, with a black pole and basket, will be painted all black.

AMOY DISTRICT.

- 1.—Coker Rocks Large Buoy, now in red and white vertical stripes, will be painted in black and white chequers.
- 2.—Coker Rocks Small Buoy, now red, will be painted in red and white chequers.
- 3.—Harbour Rock Buoy, now in red and white horizontal stripes, will be painted in red and black chequers.
- 4.—Kallit Spit Buoy, now red, will be painted in red and black vertical stripes.
- 5.—Alibi Rock, Kangintah, and Chio-tah Beacons, all of which are now white, will be painted black.

FOOCHOW DISTRICT.

- 1.—Oriental Rock Beacon, will be painted all red except its name, which will be borne on its cage in white letters.
- 2.—Half Tide Beacon, of granite and now unpainted, will be painted black.

single, white spar, will be painted red and surrounded with an inverted frustum cage painted white.
5.—Tiger's Tail Beacon, now all white, will be painted black with the exception of its cage which is to remain white.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

Liamore Wreck Buoy will have the numeral "1" painted over the word "WRECK."

TIENTSIN DISTRICT.

Inner Buoy, now in red and black vertical stripes, will be painted red.

NEWCHANG DISTRICT.

1.—East Spit Beacon, which is a spar mounted with two black balls with the numeral "V" on the lower one, will be painted all red.

2.—Nodding Tommy Beacon, a white spar mounted with a diamond-shaped red box, with the numeral "IV" painted thereon, will have its spar painted red and its diamond-shaped box also painted red, with the exception of a horizontal stripe one foot wide around its middle, which is to be painted white.

3.—Middle Bank Beacon, a red spar mounted with a diamond-shaped black box having the numeral "III" painted thereon, will have a spherical cage substituted for its diamond-shaped one and be painted all red.

4.—Flagstaff Beacon, a black and white spar mounted with two black, diamond-shaped boxes bearing the numeral "II" on the lower one, will be painted red.

5.—Fish Hoist Beacon, a black spar mounted with a diamond-shaped red box bearing the numeral "1," will be painted all black.

By Order of the Inspector-General of Customs,
A. M. BISBEE,
Coast Inspector.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Coast Inspector's Office,
Shanghai, 4th August, 1882.

FOR PAKHOI AND HAIPHONG.

The Steamship
"Ping-on,"
Capt. McCARLIN, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on SUNDAY, the 10th Instant, at
Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

FOR MANILA.

The Steamship
"Emeralda,"
Captain TALBOT, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on MONDAY, the 11th Instant, at
3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.

(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW CHANG, TIENTSIN, HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTSE.)

The Co.'s Steamship
"Diomed,"
Capt. JACKSON, will be
despatched at Daylight
on SATURDAY, the 9th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR SHANGHAI VIA AMOY.
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for NINGPO, CHEFOO, NEW CHANG, HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTSE.)

The Co.'s Steamship
"Diomed,"
Capt. JACKSON, will be
despatched at Daylight
on SATURDAY, the 9th Instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SHANGHAI.
(Taking Cargo & Passengers at through rates for CHEFOO, TIENTSIN, NEW CHANG, HANKOW and Ports on the YANGTSE.)

The Co.'s Steamship
"Ping-on,"
Capt. JACKSON, will be
despatched at Daylight
on SATURDAY, the 9th Instant, at 3 p.m.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Underigned has received instructions from A. NEWTON, Esq., to Sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,
the 15th September, 1882, at 2 p.m., at his Residence at the Gas Works, the whole of his

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c.,
comprising:—
DAMASK COVERED DRAWING-ROOM SUITE, ENGLISH-MADE MAHOGANY TABLE-TOP TABLES, CANTON-BLACKWOOD MARBLE-TOP TABLES, CHINA GLASSES, ENGRAVINGS, VASES and ORNAMENTS.

DINING TABLE, WHATNOTS, LAMP, GLASS, DESSET and BREAKFAST SETS; GLASS and PLATED WARE.

DOUBLE and SINGLE IRON BEDSTEPS, LEON COTS, ENGLISH-MADE WALNUT WORK TABLE, ENGLISH-MADE MAHOGANY MARBLE-TOP WARDROBE and CHEVAL GLASS.

RECHUSILS GLIMPES and HEARTH RUGS. ONE GRAND PIANO, by COLLARD and COLANGE.

ONE HARMONIUM.

ONE SEWING MACHINE and STAND, by WILCOX & GIBBS.

BOOKS, MUSIC. A few BOTTLES of CHERRY WINE, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued, and the whole to be on view on and after Thursday, the 14th Instant.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.

Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

To-day's Advertisements.

FOR NINGPO AND SHANGHAI.

The Steamship
"Ping-on,"
Capt. JACKSON, will be
despatched for the above
Ports on SATURDAY, the 9th Instant, at 4 p.m., instead of as previously notified.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & Co.
Hongkong, September 7, 1882.

TO LET.

TWO HOUSES in RICHMOND TERRACE, Bonham Road. Rent Moderate.
Apply to
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Hongkong, July 7, 1882.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sept. 6, *Lucine*, British steamer, 977, Peters, Haiphong Aug. 26, and Hoihow Sept. 5, General.—Geo. R. STEVENS & Co.

Sept. 6, *Himalaya*, British steamer, 514, W. R. Beadle, Haiphong Sept. 3, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Sept. 7, *Ping-on*, British steamer, 375, A. A. McCaulin, Haiphong Sept. 4, Rice.—RUSSELL & Co.

Sept. 7, *Volmer*, Danish steamer, 979, Hemzelmann, Newcastle (N.S.W.) Aug. 18, Coal.—Geo. R. STEVENS & Co.

Sept. 7, *Chinkiang*, British steamer, from Canton.

Sept. 7, *Diomed*, British steamer, 1736, M. H. F. Jackson, London July 10, and Singapore Aug. 31, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Sept. 7, *Benedict*, British steamer, 1000, J. Ross, Saigon Sept. 3, Rice, &c.—GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sept. 7, *London Castle*, for Shanghai.

7, *Forerunner*, for Tientsin.

7, *Magenta*, for Chefoo.

7, *Rome*, for Haiphong.

7, *Pembroke*, for Yokohama.

7, *Djemah*, for Marseilles, &c.

7, *Hungarian*, for Sydney, &c.

7, *Peking*, for Canton.

7, *Chinkiang*, for Ningpo, &c.

CLEARED.

Surprise, for Hoihow.

Saltee, for Haiphong.

Forerunner, for Singapore.

Noupariel, for Newchwang.

Osiris, for Haiphong.

Anna, for Tientsin.

PASSENGERS.

Per *Volmer*, from Newcastle (N.S.W.), Mr and Mrs Biggers, and Mrs Croll and son.

Per *Diomed*, from London, &c., Lieut. Napier, Messrs Rose and Baldwin, and 130 Chinese.

Per *Himalaya*, from Haiphong, 2 Chinese.

Per *Benedict*, from Saigon, 70 Chinese.

Per *Forerunner*, for Singapore, Mr W. Waldron, and Mrs Matilda Goldberg; for Bombay, Mr T. W. Wilde; for Trieste, Mr Heinrich Ebel, and Mr Pedro Corich, and 376 Chinese for the Straits.

Per *Djemah*, for Saigon, 5 Chinese; for Batavia, Mr William Harold; for Marseilles, Mr and Mrs Newton, child and amah, Messrs P. Sander, H. J. J. Chambers, José Potouch, and James R. Wilson.

From Shanghai, for Port Said, Mr Ba-nowski; for Marseilles, Mr de Hoffer Hofferfeldt (Austro-Hungarian Minister), Sir Thomas Wade (H. M. Minister) and Lady Wade and 2 Chinese servants, Messrs W. Donald Spencer, Achille Babille, Sigolo, and J. Manz.—From Yokohama: for Saigon, Mr Levesque; for Marseilles, Messrs Tony Conte, and Achille, Mr and Mrs Tordato and children; Messrs Wakayama and Nakiaki, and 1 servant.

Per *Forerunner*, for Tientsin, 20 Chinese.

Per *Anna*, for Haiphong, 20 Chinese.

Per *Hungarian*, for Sydney, &c., 18 Chinese.

Per *Chinkiang*, for Ningpo and Shanghai, 50 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per *Surprise*, for Hoihow, 3 Europeans.

Per *Saltee*, for Haiphong, 12 Chinese.

Per *Osiris*, for Haiphong, 20 Chinese.

Per *Anna*, for Tientsin, 5 Chinese.

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Himalaya* reports: Left Haiphong on the 3rd inst., and had strong Easterly winds and rain and heavy sea.

The British steamer *Ping-on* reports: Left Haiphong on the 4th inst. at 5.30 a.m., arrived in Hongkong on 7th at 9 a.m. Had strong N.E. wind with squally weather throughout the passage.

The Danish steamer *Volmer* reports: First 3 days strong head wind, then fresh S.E. trade wind, from lat. 5.8. calms and light breeze mostly from North and N.E., and in China Sea fresh Easterly winds, 3 miles N.E. of N.E. Point of New Island, Cape St. Maria, had a shock like that of an earthquake which shook the ship from 10 to 15 seconds.

The British steamer *Diomed* reports: From Singapore to Pulo Saput had fine weather, thence to Hongkong had fresh winds and squally weather, attended with rain.

The British steamer *Benedict* reports: First part light S.W. winds, latter part fresh N.E. and Easterly winds with squalls and rain.

CARGO.

Per S. S. *Djemah*, sailed 7th September: For Continent, 2,112 bales Silk, 625 bales Waste Silk, 30 bales Cocoons, 30 cases Foxgloves, 1,354 half-chests and 401 boxes Tea, 495 pkgs. Sundries. For London, 748 bales Silk, 40 bales Waste Silk, 2 cases Silks, 185 chests, 1,016 half-chests and 520 boxes Tea, and 901 pkgs. Sundries.

POST OFFICE NOTICES.

MAILS will close:—

For MANILA.—
Per *Generalda*, at 2.30 p.m., on Monday, the 11th inst.

For STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—
Per *Dumehur*, at 3.30 p.m., on Tuesday, the 12th inst.

For SAIGON.—
Per *Killarney*, at 5 p.m., on Tuesday, the 12th inst.

For NAGASAKI, KOBE, AND YOKOHAMA.—
Per *Nigata Maru*, at 3.30 p.m., on Friday, the 15th inst.

For NAGASAKI AND YOKOHAMA.—
Per *Bangalore*, at 11.30 a.m., on Saturday, the 16th inst.

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor Owners will be Responsible for any Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew of the following Vessels, during their stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

Edgar, British steamer, Captain T. Thomas.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

Cairns, British steamer, Captain G. Castle.—Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

Canopus, British steamer, Captain R. H. Joy.—Russell & Co.

Caroline Bern, German barque, Capt. O. Hufenhauser.—Siemssen & Co.

Enin's Isle, British ship, Captain J. Fleming.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

runs may read, yet considerably less muddy than it is.

It is to be hoped that the Sanitary Authorities are taking every precaution with regard to the lanes and back streets of the native town. At home Local Boards of Health, under circumstances such as we are now situated in, would have a rigid house-to-house inspection, the drains flushed, and all particularly dirty localities white-washed. Should Hongkong, in spite of all the precautions taken by the Executive to prevent a visit of so dreaded a visitor as cholera be unhappily infected, the results would be fearful to contemplate in the districts which we have referred to. We are not aware that matters sanitary have improved since the departure of Mr. Chadwick, but we have every reason to believe that they are in pretty much the same state as they were when they shocked the sanitary nose of that experienced gentleman. The Colony, fortunately, possesses Dr. Ayres, a gentleman fully alive to the evils that exist, and competent to meet them. If therefore only remains with the Executive to place at his disposal ample means to engage (temporarily) Sanitary or Nuisance Inspectors and increased staffs, so as to place the city in as satisfactory a sanitary state as the wretched construction of native houses and streets admit of.

We have seen a letter from Tientsin which, in a sense, confirms the startling report of collision between the Russian and Chinese troops in North-Eastern Manchuria, but assumes that it must be some purely local trouble, arising out of the disorders committed by Chinese criminals at the gold washings, some of which are near to Russian territory. When the Chinese pursue the gold-seekers, the fugitives take refuge on Russian ground; and the Russians often chase the refugees back. The gold-seekers in Chinese Kirin mostly belong to the bands of brigands who infest the country in the winter time; and the Russians frequently have trouble with them. A few years ago the Russian frontier Cossacks surrounded a Chinese robber band of about 150, who had committed depredations on Russian territory. All the captured men were shot, as the simplest way of saving the Russian authorities further trouble. It has often happened that Chinese bandits in pursuit of robbers have passed over the Russian frontier line; and some years ago (in 1876 or 1877), on the other hand, Russian forces in pursuit of Chinese robbers entered the Korea for seventy miles, and crossed into Chinese land as well. The boundaries of Russia and China are of great length, the border populations are unquiet everywhere, and in Manchuria the frontier men on both the Russian and Chinese sides, are mostly brigands, so that disputes between the Russian and Chinese frontier station troops are, probably, of more frequent occurrence than had been suspected.

ERIC-A-BRAO.

Dr. Williams (*Middle Kingdom*, I, p. 332) in speaking of the Boards of Rites and Music seems to have conceived the idea that such institutions are peculiar to the history of the Chinese people. If the Doctor really intended such a construction to be put upon his words, he is in error. Boards of music are of very high antiquity, and were equally as important in Chaldean, Assyrian, and Egyptian, as in China. The Egyptians in especial were very fond of musical ceremonies, and there were men chosen for their excellence in the musical art who directed all the orchestral and vocal entertainments at Court. Chief of these was the Royal Musical Director, who bore the title of "Intendant of Songs and of the Royal Recreations." Moreover, every temple had its own staff of musicians and singers, who drew their salaries from the Government. The Musical Director had to look after the court dancers and postures, a duty which devolved also upon the Board of Music at Peking. In the trifling deities of Canopus—the Rosetta stone—sacred chants are prescribed in honour of a deified prince, exactly as is done to-day in China on the occasion of the deaths of a member of the Imperial family. The Assyrians had also solemn chants and musical festivals under the direct supervision of the Court. There was a band of musicians and singers attendant upon the royal pleasure, and numerous sculptures depict the monarch at table or in the throne-room, surrounded by his musicians. The office of Chief Musical Director was a most important one, and was frequently held by the chief of the royal harem. Sanherib, in describing a successful raid upon a neighbouring province, says: "The inmates of his palace, male and female, his musicians and singing girls, to the very midst of Nineveh, my royal city, I transported them."

One would naturally suppose, that the *Three Letters* being the first book put in the hands of Chinese children, is free from errors, misprints, hastily written characters, and the like. This is however far from being the case. The "Three Letter Classic," common in the schools of Canton and Southern China in general, abounds in badly written characters, and confusing misprints. For instance 慈 occurs for 慈情 for 慈, and even 慈 for 慈. Then again characters occur which entirely change the sense of the sentence, and are not admissible even on the grounds of there being several versions of the "Three Letters."

Classic." For example, on p. 26 we have 十七史 instead of 廿一史; p. 4, 33, col. 1, 日家樂 for 日家福; p. 33, col. 1, 當少成 for 當自督, and many others. In the third place some characters are substituted for others, not only changing the sense, but rendering the sentence entirely unintelligible, as p. 5, col. 3, the substitution of 名 for 文, etc.

It is considered meritorious by the Chinese to be clamorous in the expression of sorrow at a burial. The Egyptians were renowned for the vociferation of their grief; "there was a great cry in Egypt at the death of the first born." Upon the decease of a person in ancient Egypt, "the females of his or her family covered their faces with mud, ran through the streets with their bosoms exposed, striking themselves and uttering loud lamentations. They were joined as they went by neighbours and friends, and if the deceased was a person of rank, by strangers as well. The men, girding their dress below the waist, ran about the town smiting their breasts and throwing dust upon their heads" (Herodotus). This custom was, and is, generally adopted throughout Western Asia. It is noteworthy that the Chinese frequently keep the bodies of deceased persons in or about the house for many years. Incense is burned before the coffins morning and evening. The coffin is either placed on a bier near the doorway, or in the ancestral chamber, where they remain until opportunity or means allow the relatives to place them in the paternal sepulchre.

In Egypt, in the case of the head of a family dying, the mummy of the deceased was kept in the principal room of the house for some time. Sacrificial offerings were placed before it night and morning, family deliberations were invariably held in its immediate vicinity, and the widow and children of the deceased invoked his spirit on certain days set apart in the year. Ancestral worship was thought as necessary and important in Egypt as it is to-day in China.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.
To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."

September 7th, 1892.
SIR,—As there appeared in your last issue a letter over the signature of "Rufus" criticising my article on the Rev. A. B. Hutchinson's translation of Faber's *Missionary*, I shall esteem it a favour if you will afford me a little of your space that I may show my appreciation of the weighty remarks of my courteous and learned critic.

I can have no manner of objection to my review being reviewed, and am indeed more pleased than otherwise at the appearance of "Rufus," and commend him for the wisdom which led him, when taking up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Hutchinson, to ignore the abundant evidence which my article, notwithstanding its faults, was certainly contained as to the miserable quality of the so-called translation.

"Rufus," glorying in his total ignorance of German, humming with a desire to vindicate Mr. Hutchinson, and probably annoyed with the reviewer for showing him the worthlessness of a book from which he had hoped to obtain assistance, fiercely criticises the literary style and what he presumes to be the malicious spirit of the article, and, ignoring, because he is unable to deny, my attack on a little of your space that I may show my appreciation of the weighty remarks of my courteous and learned critic.

The first objection taken by "Rufus" is to the wrong length of the review, which he nevertheless reads twice! The article certainly was long, but such was the injustice done to Mr. Faber that a thorough exposure with the many examples it involved was rendered absolutely necessary in justice to the author and to any unfortunate reader who might have purchased the book, as he would be thus enabled to correct some few of the astonishing blunders with which it abounded.

It reminds us of the days when we were taught to sacrifice everything to a literal translation. "Seneca" does this with boyish idolatry and perfection. I should have thought that this point would have been worse for Rufus to have remained silent. He criticises one sentence, but only because the English is halting, not because it is a mistranslation, and having found, as he deems it, a bad translation he heaps his denunciations on it. "Rufus" by his remarks proves himself to be a raw hand at translation work or he would know that style depends to a great extent upon the original. It is by no means an easy task to be polished, graceful, fluent and correct in translation, but when it is the choice of the literalness so scorned by "Rufus" and a piece of gracefully written rubbish no one would long have two opinions about the matter. I am, however, grateful to "Rufus" for pointing out two clumsy sentences, but am, I confess, rather amused to see the avidity with which he has seized on these two instances and hung them as a special plea on them. He thoughtfully knows that he has made the most of the two blunders he has discovered by the aid of his keen critical faculties and his primers on Composition and Grammar. If "Rufus" urged on by his love of fair play and eagerness to champion any cause, even that of a shant translation, cannot find any more serious flaws in the indictment or in the evidence which supports it than a few feeble sentences written *errata calamo* his armoury must be ill-supplied, the case of his opponent very strong, or his own a feeble one. "Rufus" has not produced one iota of evidence to show that Mr. Hutchinson has been unfairly treated, that his translation is not a pretentious show of the most astounding blunders and disgraced by wilful alterations and unvarnished colouring. When "Rufus" disproves this indictment it will be time enough to withdraw it and apologise. Thanking him for his letter, I may remind him that he must not mistake unsupported statements for facts, or strong epithets for arguments. I am &c.

SCUTICA.

Law Notice.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF HONGKONG.

(Before the Hon. Sir G. Phillips, Knt., Chief Justice, and a Special Jury.)
IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION. Friday, 8th Sept., 10.30 a.m.—Stevens v. Chow Shik-Hing.

Police Intelligence.

(Before H. G. Thomson, Esq., Thursday, Sept. 6.)

LARCENY.
A watchman, named Wan Ayau, was convicted of stealing a pipe, value \$1, from the room of Leung Kam-ho, an inmate of licensed hotel No. 38. The theft was committed about one o'clock this morning. Prisoner, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

ATTENTIVE TO STEAL.
Li Ai, coolie, was convicted of attempting to steal a wallet from the child of Tse Pui-lai, while that person was looking at the decorations at the Man Mo Temple yesterday afternoon. The prisoner was ordered to find two sureties of \$25 each to be of good behaviour for three months, to be committed in default.

WIFE-BEATING AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.
Lam Ahing, rope-maker, was charged with beating a woman, the wife of the late Li Kung, widow, and also with damaging the widow's property. The widow stated that the defendant and his wife visited her house yesterday afternoon. After having a game at dominoes, the defendant commenced to beat his wife, and on complaint of her, he beat her also, and broke her lamp, value 30 cents. The widow's evidence was corroborated by her son.

The defendant's version of the affair was that he went to the complainant's house for his wife, whom he pushed when she declared to leave. He denied having struck the complainant or breaking the lamp. The Magistrate fined the defendant \$1, or four days' imprisonment for committing the assault, and ordered him to pay 30 cents damages to the complainant for breaking the lamp.

A MISUNDERSTANDING.
Hung Sai Man, residing at No. 13 East Street, was summoned for unlawfully cutting the public road in Water Lane on the 2nd instant. Mr. Watts, overseer in the Surveyor General's Department, said he saw the defendant cutting a large trench in Water Lane on the 2nd instant. Defendant's object was to connect his horse drain with that of the Government. He had no permission for this, and had damaged the road considerably.

The defendant said the Inspector of nuisances had given him leave to open the ground, but this was denied by Inspector Germain. As the defendant had apparently not understood what the Inspector had said, and pleaded that he was not aware that permission from the Government was required before he could open the drain, he was discharged on the understanding that he would obtain a permit in the usual way.

DEPOSITING RUBBISH.
Chan Aehong, coolie, was fined \$5, or fourteen days' imprisonment for depositing rubbish in Spring Garden Lane.

BURGLARY.
Leong Apai was convicted of burglariously entering the house No. 12 Wing Wo Lane about three o'clock this morning, and attempting to steal a box containing clothing, value \$15. The defendant after he had admitted that he entered the house with the intention of stealing, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

CARRIAGE DRIVING.
Han Aing and Cheung Ayei, carpenters, were charged with carelessly driving a truck in Nallan Lane on the 7th inst.

The case was remanded as the complainant, a widow named Chan Aye, was unable to appear, owing to her arm having been fractured.

China.

(Courier Correspondent.)
August 29th.
The natives are still keeping the Settlement alive with nightly displays of fireworks, both on land and on the water, and these continue to flourish, and if we are allowed to judge from appearances, all this excitement has infused a spirit of rejoicing in one of our oldest inhabitants who for the last two or three evenings has favoured us with a number of songs, hymns, marches, &c., which he rolls off an automaton organ from the number of visitors lately seen

going and coming. It may reasonably be supposed the instrument has great charms, and we look forward with pleasure to the day that will see more of the same description imported.

Thieves and rogues of late have turned their attention to the river, the proceeds of their exploits in the Settlement not being sufficiently remunerative. Their first proceeding was to loot the property of two young students who were engaged in passing through the bridge of boats on their way to Hongchow to pass their examination. They next hustled a man into the river from the same bridge, for not being able to meet a debt, and afterwards regretted drowning their victim, as by this means they rendered it impossible to obtain anything from the family. Already the engine of the law are at work, and have gained a clue to the offenders in both cases, and when they are brought up the severest punishment will be administered.

The following has just come to hand from a temple called "Ching Ho Szan," situated about twenty miles south-west of Hongkong. There is an annual pilgrimage to the place in which a great number of women participate. One of the pilgrims, an elderly Ningpo woman, accidentally fell from the first high bridge leading to the temple, and was dashed to pieces on the rocks beneath; at once a rumour was spread abroad that the priest had caused the woman's death, and the mob carried the body back to the temple. On the country people hearing of the affair they flocked to the place in hundreds, and threatened to pull the temple down and kill the priests. Eventually, however, all, we presume in the shape of a woman's body, was restored. The remains of the body of the woman were sent to Ningpo in a coffin.

A pretty severe thunder squall took place the evening before last, the rain coming down at times in torrents. We have not heard of any damage having been done by the lightning.

Yesterday morning H. B. M. gun-vessel *Sheldrake* left this for Chusan and Shanghai.

CHINESE SUPERSTITIONS.

(Celestial Empire).
Of the many curious superstitions that pervade Chinese thought, there are none more remarkable than those connected with floods and inundations. The recent disaster of this kind has excited the imagination of the Chinese, and has been the cause of many a foolish belief. The Chinese are very superstitious, and have a great number of gods, and many of them are very powerful. They believe that the gods can do anything, and that they are very angry with the people. They believe that the gods can punish the people, and that they are very kind to the people. They believe that the gods can protect the people, and that they are very wise. They believe that the gods can do anything, and that they are very powerful.

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night near the place of danger, and in that way the animal may be frightened and kept in its confinement. The writer believes that any man may be generated in other ways from the male and female, as from cohabitation in a hygienic manner in the ground and meeting favourable circumstances of warmth and moisture, and they sometimes come out of old temples and dank dwellings, as for instance in the well-known case in the reign of T'anghieh where one was found crouching in a dwelling house in Wang King-han and was soon by a number of people to have a form resembling that of a spider; but this only shows how necessary it is that officials and people should be on the outlook for them in other places than among the hills.

So much for the views of the expedient. Sun-Professor. He evidently has no doubts on the matter, but surely the vulgar notion of Kanahm must have amused grimly when he read such bedlam nonsense in an official despatch. And yet if the *Shun Pao's* information is correct, he is perhaps as firm a believer in the Kiao as his subordinate, who is that the he devoted himself to the study of the province to look up the old methods of hunting these mysterious creatures, and make out a book of instructions for the guidance of the inferior magistrates. If it is so, it only shows what unexplored places there are in Chinese philosophy, and how very far we and the rest of the world are from any common intellectual standpoint.

"THE TRUTH ABOUT OPIUM."

(From the Pioneer.)

This is the title of a book containing the substance of three lectures delivered in St. James's Hall in February last by Mr. Breton, late a Solicitor at Hongkong. The place where such lectures, purporting to give sober facts in refutation of the wild assertions of the Anti-Opium League, should properly have been delivered, was Exeter Hall. But "the committee of Exeter Hall refused to allow me its use for the purpose of refuting the false and unfounded allegations of the Anti-Opium Society—an act of intolerance which, I think, I am justified in exposing." So writes Mr. Breton in his preface, and he appears surprised at his expecting anything else. He might have known that the last thing which a fanatic desires is to be convinced. There is a certain class of Englishmen with whom it is an axiom that any of their countrymen placed in power will promptly commence in a public capacity to execute or abet all kinds of atrocities of which, as private individuals, their accusers would never deem them capable. "Intemperance" is the favorite theme of these fanatics. Men whom they will admit to be of blameless life and high character privately, are by such persons recklessly stigmatised as perpetrating "iniquities" in their official capacities; and naturally the fanatics are by no means desirous to be convinced. They have launched these accusations unjustly.

Mr. Breton begins his first lecture by saying that he did not intend dealing with the question on the grounds of expediency; "for if I believed that one half of what is stated by the Anglo-Oriental Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade were true, I should be the first to raise my voice against the traffic, even though it involved the loss of seven millions sterling, but of seventy times seven." We cannot quite agree with Mr. Breton on this point. What is it that the Anti-Opium Society allege? They say that opium is a very bad thing, and that the Chinese could be debauched from injuring themselves therewith if the Indian Government would cut off the supply. Mr. Breton points out that both premises are false, but we imagine that he speaks inadvertently, when he says that if they were true he would go with the Anti-Opium Society. Suppose it were shown that the Chinese could be debauched from injuring themselves therewith if the Indian Government would cut off the supply. Mr. Breton points out that both premises are false, but we imagine that he speaks inadvertently, when he says that if they were true he would go with the Anti-Opium Society.

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what would be the effect of cutting off the Indian supply, supposing the Indian Government took the further step of doing this at an immense expense in preventive measures, and the Chinese could not be filled up without incurring the utmost political danger. Indeed the native papers see this and are already crying out. Even supposing a compromise were made, such as that proposed by Lord Lawrence in the abandonment of the monopoly and the mere levy of an export duty, still the loss would be one far too serious to be contemplated with equanimity. If the Indian revenues are to be diminished let it be in favour of the Indian people, and not in that of the Chinese Government which it perfectly well able to take care of itself.

The Chinese do not really wish, or do not hope, to check the use of opium. They accept that as unobjectionable, or else unavoidable, and all they desire is to check the import of Indian Opium, and the consequent drain of Chinese silver. And it is not opium alone that they would like to exclude upon this ground, but all foreign goods. Sir Rutherford Alcock quoted before the Society of Arts, an official statement to the effect that "from the commencement of commercial intercourse down to 1829-30 the balance of trade had always been in favour of the Chinese, and great quantities of bullion accumulated in China. Since that date the balance of trade had been in the opposite direction and bullion began to flow out of China. As silver became more scarce it naturally rose in value . . . and the effects of this change had heavily upon a large and important class of Government officers, and ultimately upon the revenue itself." Therefore it was that, as pointed out by Sir Rutherford Alcock, no reference has ever been made by the Chinese, till the Anti-Opium society put it into their heads, to anything but the material aspect of the opium trade. On the contrary, said Sir Rutherford Alcock, "the reason exclusively put forward by the first of these diets in 1879" (referring to the Imperial Edicts published from time to time on the subject of opium) "were that it wasted the time and property of the people of the Innerland, leading them to exchange their silver and commodities for the vile dirt of the foreigner. And as late as 1886, when memorial were presented to the Emperor showing the connection of the opium trade with the exportation of specie (silver), they generally regarded the question in a political and financial character, rather than a moral light." Under these circumstances how can the fanatics assert that the importation of Indian opium has affected the success of Christian Missionsaries. Of course now the Chinese will tell them so, having found out what a useful ally the Anti-Opium Society may be. The Mandarin will use the missionaries against the opium with pleasure, laughing in their sleeves at their audacity; but this will not diminish their aversion to the Kiao, and their Gospel, to all foreign devils, and foreign products, and foreign ideas. "Take away your opium and your missionaries," said Prince Kung, "for the Chinese only seek to be alone." "But the missionaries say they know that they cannot get rid of, so they use them against the opium; others who they would probably scorn to use the opium of the two, for it yields the Chinese Government a net revenue of over two millions sterling. It is guessed that they also derive about half that amount from the duty on the home-grown article, so when they endeavour to develop the cultivation and improve the manufacture of opium, result in its including the imported opium, then their loss in customs revenue in the latter will be recouped, and they will have effected their object of keeping their silver in the country. Actually therefore the Chinese Government is acting vigorously in the very opposite sense to what the fanatics allege, the Anti-Opium Society.

Mr. Breton quotes in evidence the official Yellow Book of Mr. Hart, Inspector-General of Chinese Customs, containing the reports of all his subordinates, and his own note on the subject of the consumption of opium in China. He puts down the annual importation of opium to be about 100,000 chests, and the native production at about the same quantity. This latter figure is given by mere guess, no statistics being available, but Mr. Hart says that it is ten times as great, still the total opium supply would suffice only for 6 per cent of the population. By his estimate, however, the percentage of smokers is much less, the supply sufficing only for one-third per cent, or two millions of persons, (for whom the habit would be nothing but evil." Mr. Hart is a servant of the Chinese Government, writing, as seen above, in the Chinese view, and yet contrast his report with the reckless statements of Lord Shaftesbury and the Association that sweep the Chinese people as opium smokers, of whom one-tenth die annually (from its effects of course) "an appalling fact!"

The value of the arguments of the Anti-Opium Association may be measured by their assertion that in the case of opium the supply has exceeded the demand. I do not remember any statistics of the Indian supply, but there is a consensus as to its regular increase. "Native opium," writes Mr. Hart, "was known, produced and used long before any European began the sale of the foreign drug along the coast." But as his subordinate Commander of Customs at Shanghai points out (and all the others agree in this) "native opium is in no way in favour to the foreign drug. It is smoked by people who cannot afford to buy the latter, with which, again, it is mixed in order to suit the circumstances of people who are a little better off, but foreign opium is used by all the smokers who can afford to buy it. So long as a constant great difference in quality between the native and foreign articles continues to exist, I do not think that the sale of the former will interfere much with that of the latter." It is the case of French brandy and British gin, and it might as well be said that the supply of the former has created the demand for alcohol in England, as that the supply of a better class of opium from India, to an opium-smoking population in China, has created the practice of smoking opium.

It would be absurd to deal seriously with such purely sentimental arguments, or to notice such a farago of false and ridiculous assertions as those exposed by Mr. Breton, were it not that this is a life-and-death question to the Indian revenues. Suppose the fanatics to get the upper hand, this gap of seven crores of rupees would have to be filled up by some means. No doubt such a gap will eventually be slowly crusted up by the opium

revenue will slowly fall through the Chinese measures of protection and encouragement of the home manufacture. But a slow loss can be gradually met, whereas a sudden gap of this magnitude could not be filled up without incurring the utmost political danger. Indeed the native papers see this and are already crying out. Even supposing a compromise were made, such as that proposed by Lord Lawrence in the abandonment of the monopoly and the mere levy of an export duty, still the loss would be one far too serious to be contemplated with equanimity. If the Indian revenues are to be diminished let it be in favour of the Indian people, and not in that of the Chinese Government which it perfectly well able to take care of itself.

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